

1195 MEDICAL SERVICES

Chapter: **Child Protective Field Services**

Section: **CPS Family Assessments**



New Hampshire Division for Children, Youth and Families Policy Manual

Policy Directive: **08-03**

Approved:

Effective Date: **May 2008**

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Maggie Bishop".

Scheduled Review Date:

Maggie Bishop, Director

Related Statute(s): [RSA 169-C](#)

Related Admin Rule(s):

Related Federal Regulation(s):

Related Form(s):

Bridges' Screen(s) and Attachment(s):

Purpose

To describe the process and requirements of assessing referrals of child abuse and neglect. The primary goal of the assessment process is to ensure the safety of the child(ren).

Policy

- I. Immediate medical evaluation and attention are necessary when the child has experienced severe physical/sexual abuse or neglect or if there is an unattended medical problem.
- II. If a child requires medical attention and evaluation, the help and cooperation of the parents must be requested. If consent is not advisable or possible, the CPSW may take photographs or request x-rays for documentation purposes without parental consent. Each photograph or x-ray is to be labeled with the name of the child, date of birth, names of the parents, date, time of day, place taken, witnesses, and Bridges assessment number. The injury must be clearly visible and identifiable as to its location on the child's body.
- III. When it is not possible to obtain permission from the parents, court action must be taken to obtain needed medical care. Assistance can be requested from law enforcement, but this action is only to be taken in instances when immediate medical care is required.
- IV. CARE Network physicians, via Medical Examinations Service, are available to examine abused/neglected children.